Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of causing expression of a desired heterologous protein in gastrointestinal mucosal cells of a mammal, the method comprising placing a nucleotide sequence encoding the desired heterologous protein under the control of a promoter consisting of a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, the promoter being operatively interconnected to the nucleotide sequence encoding the desired heterologous protein, in a recombinant gut-colonizing bacterium, wherein the recombinant gut-colonizing bacterium is suitably attenuated so that the mammal does not experience significant harmful effects as a result of infection by the recombinant gut-colonizing bacterium, orally administering the recombinant gut-colonizing bacterium to the mammal, and causing expression of the desired heterologous protein in the gastrointestinal mucosal cells of the mammal.

2-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the desired heterologous protein induces a protective immune response against a pathogen in the mammal.

24-25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~23~~, 1, wherein the recombinant ~~gut colonizing~~ gut-colonizing bacterium is a *Salmonella spp.*

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the *Salmonella spp.* is *Salmonella typhimurium* or *Salmonella typhi*.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the pathogen is *Yersinia pestis*.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the desired heterologous protein comprises the F1-antigen of *Yersinia pestis*.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the recombinant ~~gut-colonising~~ gut-colonizing bacterium is administered as a composition which further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently Amended) A method of inducing a serum or mucosal antibody response in a mammal against *Yersinia pestis* comprising expressing ~~an~~ F1-antigen of *Yersinia pestis* in an attenuated recombinant *Salmonella spp.* by placing a nucleotide sequence encoding the F1-antigen under control of a promoter consisting of ~~a~~ the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, the promoter being operatively interconnected to the nucleotide sequence, and administering a dosage of the attenuated recombinant *Salmonella spp.* orally to ~~a~~ the mammal.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33 wherein the *Salmonella spp.* is *Salmonella typhimurium* or *Salmonella typhi*.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33 wherein the attenuated recombinant *Salmonella spp.* is administered with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.